

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 552
By Black

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Dr. Thomas Foster Carter upon
his receipt of the United Chambers of
Commerce Order of the Horse Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to
specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to
improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Carter is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity
and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his commendable service to the community of
Westmoreland and Sumner County, Dr. Thomas Carter was recently conferred the Order of the
Horse Award at the Annual Meeting of the United Chambers of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, established in 1997, the Order of the Horse Award is presented each year
to an individual of exemplary character who has rendered service for a lengthy period of time to
Sumner County and, in so doing, has improved the quality of life for all citizens of the county;
and

WHEREAS, Dr. Carter's life-long dedication to community service includes a tenure on
the Westmoreland City Council as Vice Mayor and as a member of the Sumner County Board of
Education; he has served as a valuable member of the Lions Club and the Westmoreland
Chamber of Commerce, as well as a member of the Board of Directors of the Tri-County Rural
Electric Co-op, the First and Peoples Bank, the Citizens Bank of Lafayette, and Sumner
Regional Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, a native of Westmoreland, Dr. Thomas Foster Carter attended
Westmoreland Elementary School and graduated from West High School in Nashville; he
continued his education at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and the University of
Tennessee Medical School in Memphis; and

WHEREAS, prior to establishing his profession as a physician in Westmoreland, Dr. Carter valiantly served his country in the military during the Korean Conflict; and

WHEREAS, during his illustrious medical career, spanning the years 1959 to 2001, Dr. Carter served as Chief of Staff at Sumner Regional Medical Center and as the Medical Director of Royal Care Nursing Home; today, Dr. Carter continues to practice medicine on a part-time basis; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenure as a physician and dedicated public servant, Dr. Carter has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Carter's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Carter is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Dr. Thomas Foster Carter is fortunate to have shared both love and companionship with his wife, Mary Ann, and their three children, Mark, David, and Beth; Dr. Carter is the devoted grandfather of seven; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Carter is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Dr. Thomas Foster Carter for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Sumner County and, indeed, all of Tennessee, congratulate him upon his receipt of the prestigious Order of the Horse Award, and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.